

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 49, 51-54, 57, 59-63 and 66-68, without prejudice, and please add the following new claim:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-68 (canceled)

Claim 69 (new): A method of using an automatic fine needle biopsy instrument to collect a sample from a desired tissue, wherein said biopsy instrument comprises a housing; a fine needle releasably attached to said housing and extending from said housing, said fine needle having a tip having an opening, a motor positioned within or on said housing, said method comprising the steps of: operating said motor using an electronic control means to provide said fine needle with reciprocating motion, penetrating the tissue from which the sample is to be collected with the fine needle, collecting the sample in the opening of the tip, and withdrawing the fine needle from the tissue to obtain the sample.